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1900-1907

William J. Kerr

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7-17-1902

## Letters between Heber M. Wells and William Kerr

Heber M. Wells

William J. Kerr  
*Utah State University*

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State of Utah.  
Executive Office.  
Salt Lake City.

14/6  
July 17, 1902.

Prof. W. J. Kerr, President,  
Agricultural College of Utah,  
Logan, Utah.

My dear Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith a print of a communication dated June 16, 1902, to the United States Ambassador at London from the trustees under the will of the late Right Honorable Cecil John Rhodes, with the provisions in the testamentary dispositions of Mr. Rhodes relating to the establishment of scholarships at Oxford of students from the British colonies and the United States.

A perusal of the paper will show that the trustees under said will are desirous of making regulations with regard to the method by which qualifications of candidates are to be ascertained, and as to the examinations, and to this end the trustees request the views of the chief officials having the control of education in the various States and Territories.

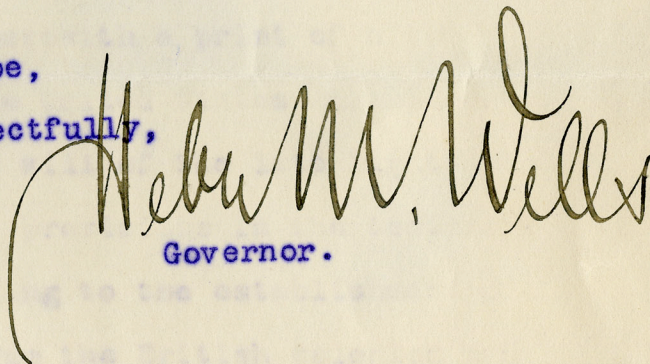
The Honorable Secretary of State of the United States has forwarded this paper to me with the request that the same be given my attentive consideration, and in order that I may be informed as to the best thought of this State on the subject I have the honor to solicit your views as an educator and as President of the Agricultural College of Utah in regard to this important matter, and I beg to assure you that your reply will



be awaited with interest, and transmitted to the Secretary of State at Washington, to be in turn transmitted to the trustees under the will of the late Mr. Rhodes. It is the hope of these trustees that the students can be elected in time to go into residence in Oxford in 1903, so that your early attention to the matter is desirable.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

  
Governor.

enclosure as above.



Nov. 1, 1902.

Governor Heber M. Wells,  
Salt Lake City, Utah.

My dear Sir:-

After giving careful consideration to the matter of your communication of July 17th, in regard to the best method of determining the qualifications of candidates for Americal Scholarships, established at Oxford under the Will of the late Right Honorable Cecil John Rhodes, I beg leave to state that in my opinion the most satisfactory results will be achieved by having the state superintendents of public instruction determine the qualifications of candidates and make recommendations to the Trustees. The Trustees may desire to subject the candidates to a test examination after their arrival at Oxford, though it will probably be found better to hold the superintendents responsible for the qualifications of their respective nominees, and thereby make the recommendations of the superintendents practically equivalent to appointment.

In carrying out this plan, it will be necessary, (i) that the Trustees prepare an outline, or brief statement, of the work prescribed for said scholarships, in accordance with the directions given in the will, and with the requirements of the different colleges of Oxford for admission to their respective courses; (ii) that the state superintendents give competitive examinations covering the work required under division (i) of the will as outlined by the Trustees; (iii) that the person who receives the highest general standing in the examinations



(Governor Heber M. Wells, #2)

and who most nearly meets the requirements of divisions (ii), (iii), and (iv) of the will, be recommended to the Trustees as the regular appointee; (iv) that the person who stands second highest be recommended as an alternate, the alternate to receive the appointment in the event that the regular appointee is unable, for any reason, to accept the scholarship.

I do not think it practicable or advisable to accept credits from any institution of learning in lieu of the competitive examinations.

Yours very truly,

President.